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NEWS

Winchester honored for energy conservation milestone

December 20, 2024 . 1:00 PM — 1 min read

DOER Commissioner Elizabeth Mahoney, Winchester Sustainability Director Ken Pruitt, Susan McPhee, Laura Turenne, Fritzie Nace, and Green Communities Regional Coordinator Dillan Patel at the awards ceremony on Nov. 22. COURTESY PHOTO/TOWN OF WINCHESTER

The following was submitted by the town of Winchester:

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The Town of Winchester was recognized at an award ceremony on Nov. 22 by the state Department of Energy Resources (DOER) for having achieved a 20% reduction in municipal energy use since becoming a Green Community in 2010.

Annual energy savings from all projects completed since 2010 include 2.6 million kWh and 73,000 natural gas therms, resulting in a major reduction not just in carbon pollution, but also town utility bills.

This achievement is thanks in large measure to efforts by members of Winchester's Energy Management Committee going all the way back to 2005, with invaluable support from Spark Energy consultants (and Winchester residents) Susan McPhee and Laura Turenne.

Individual projects are too numerous to list, but include lighting conversions to highly efficient LEDs at most town buildings and of all street lights, more efficient heating and cooling systems in town buildings, renovation of Winchester High School to much higher efficiency standards (achieving LEED Gold status), and many more.

This work was supported by $1.8 million in DOER Green Community grants, utility incentives, and town appropriations. Winchester continues to seek out opportunities for projects that reduce energy use and carbon pollution.

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Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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March 4, 2026

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

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Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

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The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

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EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

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FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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